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piece, said plurality of pocket-sized fly boxes being of different types.

25. (Twice Amended) A portable system for holding, storing and transporting fishing equipment, comprising:

an integrated fly box support and a fishing rod holder made of a single piece of rigid material, said fishing rod holder configured to hold a fishing rod in a horizontal orientation while said fly box is being accessed; and

a fastener adapted to releasably secure a fly box to said base piece so it can be accessed without removing it from said base piece.

#### BRIEF REMARKS FOR DISCUSSION AT INTERVIEW

The claims do not claim a plurality of fly boxes, but rather a fastener that is capable of attaching any one of a plurality of fly boxes to the base plate. The fastener is shown in the drawings.

The original specification supports the base piece covering less than 50% of the chest of the normal adult. See FIG. 1, and page 7, lines 29 through page 8, line 4.

The Office Action states that the claims are confusing since the examiner does not understand the point of having fly boxes that are removable if they can be accessed without removal. They are removable because at different seasons, or different times of the day, a fly fisherman will want to have a different set of flies, and the removability allows him to simply replace one box with another. It is advantageous to be accessible without being removed because a person normally only has two hands, and as any fly fisherman knows, one hand is often being used for one thing, such as holding a branch or a rod, while one is trying to access a fly box.

The examiner says it would be obvious to secure the base piece of Miller to the chest by shortening the strap 11. However, in that case, the fishing rod would be in the user's face. No one would do that.

Based upon the foregoing amendment and remarks, claims 1 – 18 and 23 – 25 as amended are patentable and their reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. No fees are seen to be required. If any fee is seen to be required, please charge it to Deposit Account No. 50-1848.

Serial No. 09/636,731

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Respectfully submitted,  
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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****In The Claims:**

1. (Thrice Amended) A chest fly box system for holding fishing equipment, comprising:
  - a base piece for supporting a pocket-sized fly box;
  - a harness that secures said base piece to the chest of a fisherman, with said base piece resting on said chest and covering less than 50% of said chest in a normal adult human; and
  - a fastener adapted to [that] releasably secure[s] any one of a plurality of pocket-sized fly boxes to said base piece so they can be accessed without removing them from said base piece, said plurality of pocket-sized fly boxes being of different types.
25. (Twice Amended) A portable system for holding, storing and transporting fishing equipment, comprising:
  - an integrated fly box support and a fishing rod holder made of a single piece of rigid material, said fishing rod holder configured to hold a fishing rod in a horizontal orientation while said fly box is being accessed; and
  - a fastener [that] adapted to releasably secure[s] a fly box to said base piece so it can be accessed without removing it from said base piece.

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